

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration, in light of the present amendment and the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

After entry of the foregoing amendment, Claims 30 and 31 are pending in the present application. The present amendment amends Claims 30 and 31. No new matter is added.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 30 and 31 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,366,488 to Zambrano et al. (hereinafter "Zambrano"); Claims 30 and 31 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by *A Sub-40-NS Chain FRAM Architecture with 7-ns Cell-Plate-Line Drive* to Takashima et al. (hereinafter "Takashima"); and Claim 30 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,759,251 to Ozaki.

Initially, Applicants and Applicants' representatives thank Examiner Wilson for the courtesy of the interview conducted August 2, 2005. During the interview, differences between non-limiting embodiments of the invention and the applied references were discussed. For instance, Applicants representative noted that Figure 1 of the present application illustrates a dummy upper electrode 25 in contact with only an insulating layer 60 and a first ferroelectric layer 19; and noted that the dummy upper electrode 25 reduces a micro-loading effect on an adjacent first upper electrode 20.¹ Applicants representative also noted that the applied references do not teach or suggest such a dummy electrode. Examiner Wilson indicated the second upper electrode would distinguish over the applied references if recited as being in contact with only the insulating layer and the ferroelectric layer.²

In view of the above, each of Claims 30 and 31 are amended to recite "covering the second upper electrode with insulating layer, such that the second upper electrode ~~is insulated~~

¹ See Applicants' prior Amendment, filed March 2, 2005, for a discussion of the dummy upper electrode 25 and the micro-loading effect.

² Interview Summary, 08/02/2005.

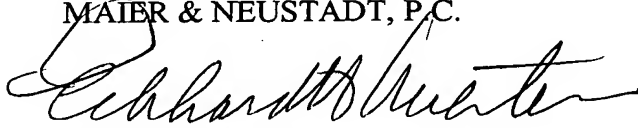
~~from the first and second impurity diffused regions by contacts only~~ the insulating layer and the ferroelectric layer."²

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejections of Claims 30 and 31 under 35 U.S.C. 102, summarized above, be withdrawn.

Consequently, in light of the above discussion and in view of the present amendment, the present application is believed to be in condition for allowance. An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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² For support, see Applicants' Figure 1.